

## I CLAIM:

1. An impact wrench having a handle, a housing pivotally secured to the handle, a socket drive cooperative with the housing, the socket drive being adapted to receive a socket for engagement with a fastener, a follower associated with the housing holding the socket drive in either a first position allowing the wrench to rotate the fastener in a loosening direction or a second position allowing the wrench to rotate the fastener in a tightening direction, the socket drive being biased to maintain the follower in either the first or the second position relative to the socket drive and the socket drive having first and second camming surfaces, whereby, when the housing is struck by an impact implement, the follower is caused to move relative to one of the camming surfaces whereby the socket drive is caused to rotate relative to the housing.

2. The impact wrench of claim 1 wherein the end of the handle has a yoke and the housing is received by the yoke.

3. The impact wrench of claim 2 wherein the yoke has spaced arms and the housing is pivotally received by and between the arms.

4. The impact wrench of claim 1 wherein the follower is a pin and the pin pivotally connects the housing to the handle.

5. The impact wrench of claim 4 wherein the socket drive has a blind bore forming a hollow region in the socket drive and the camming surfaces are provided in apertures extending through the hollow region.

6. The impact wrench of claim 5 wherein the camming surfaces are part helical.

7. The impact wrench of claim 5 wherein the apertures are diametrically opposed to one another.

8. The impact wrench of claim 5 wherein the apertures are heart shaped having a left hand and a right hand lobe with a spaced rounded region whereby the camming surfaces are provided by a surface extending between the left hand lobe and the spaced rounded region and by a surface between the right hand lobe and the spaced rounded region.

9. The impact wrench of claim 8 wherein the camming surfaces are part helical.

10. The impact wrench of claim 5 wherein the bore in the socket drive has a shoulder against which a spring which provides the bias to the socket drive may locate.

11. The impact wrench of claim 1 wherein the socket drive has an end in the form of a shaft with a square transverse cross section for receiving the socket.

12. The impact wrench of claim 11 wherein the shaft has a spring biased detent ball for engaging the socket for holding the socket relative to the shaft.

13. The impact wrench of claim 8 wherein the apertures have mirror symmetry about an axis extending from the spaced rounded region to a location between the lobes.